



NDFC - Return to Play - Safety Plan

On June 15th 2021, the Provincial Health Officer announced the next step in BC's "Restart Plan", a phased approach aimed at resuming normal activities as health restrictions are gradually lifted. As part of this plan, guidance has been provided relevant to sporting activities, including youth soccer. **In Step 2 of the plan, physical contact continues to be permitted, and physical distancing is no longer required. Soccer clubs and teams are now able to travel for games.**

NDFC has taken the lead from the Provincial Health Officer and local health authorities, as well as our governing sports authorities (Canada Soccer, BC Soccer, and viaSport) as a model to design our own specific return to play protocols. It is essential that all members are diligent in adhering to the club's direction, and play a role in emphasizing the importance of the following rules.

Restrictions

- All full size 11 v 11 soccer fields shall host no greater than 50 participants, with the exception of Delsom turf, which shall host no greater than 80 participants at a time. Full fields will be divided into grids, and some grids will have more or less participants than others, but the total number of participants shall not exceed these limits
- Travel is now allowed for training and games; no travel restrictions
- Spectators are now allowed; up to 50 spectators are permitted, spaced out around a regular size 11 v 11 field - please note: **participants are limited to 1 parent/guardian per player**
- Parent participation at U5: Please note that parent *attendance* during sessions is required (i.e. parent/guardian needs to remain at the field). If parents would like to *actively participate* during the session, they are welcome to do so; however, participation is not required
- Parent participation at U6/U7 is not required

Enhanced Protocols

- All participants (including U5 parents) attending training and/or games must perform a 'health check' prior to arrival. Anyone exhibiting any Covid-19 symptoms shall refrain from attending, and will need to report this to a club contact. Signage at the fields will serve as a reminder for everyone to check for symptoms prior entering the field
- All participants will be expected to apply hand sanitizer prior to entering the field of play and upon exiting the field
- All players and team officials, as well as spectators, are encouraged to wear a mask to and from the field, and while spectating; however, a mask is not required to be worn during training and/or games



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Equipment

- Players are required to supply their own water and/or medical needs. Each player will manage their own personal equipment
- Players should wear appropriate footwear (i.e. soccer shoes with studs). Shin pads are mandatory
- Training equipment will mainly consist of cones, small nets, pinnies and soccer balls. Equipment can now be handled by both players as well as coaches/managers, and can now be shared among players